

TO SEND SEWAGE FAR OUT TO SEA

Planned to Lead East River Sewers to an Artificial Island.

3 MILES OFF CONEY

Tunnel to Carry Manhattan's Waste Under Brooklyn.

MANY PRAISE PROJECT

Dr. Soper of Metropolitan Commission Calls Present System Disgrace.

Dr. George A. Soper and his associates on the Metropolitan Sewerage Commission have prepared a plan for the sanitary disposition of sewage which now flows into the lower East River. It calls for a twelve foot tunnel under Brooklyn to Coney Island, the creation of an island in the shallows three miles off shore, and the elimination there of impurities before the sewage flows into the ocean.

Dr. Soper said yesterday that the East River has reached a dangerous state of pollution and that as population increases it will become more and more a menace to health.

The cost of the project is \$22,874,000, including the expense of making the new island off the Coney shore. Dr. Soper has made other reports to Mayor Gaynor in the last fifteen months, in which he showed how other parts of the city should be treated. All told the cost of treating the waters around New York from infectious dirt is estimated at \$27,113,320.

Dr. Soper does not insist that the whole scheme should be carried out at once. He says, however, that it is imperative to clean up the East River without more ado.

"The lower East River ought to be a centre for cleanliness," he said. "The population on both shores is so enormous that to leave the river in its present condition is vicious. As a matter of fact more sewage is expelled into the waters of the East River compared with its size than anywhere else in the metropolitan district. Contrary to general belief, the East River is unsuited as a drainage canal."

"In the first place, it is not a river but an arm of the sea. The waters flow back and forth virtually without change, for there is no considerable volume of fresh water flowing into it. One of the floats which we used to test the flow of water travelled 108 miles in seventy-six hours. When it was picked up it was only a mile from where we put it in."

"It is supposed also that salt water will purify sewage. But we find that typhoid germs will live as long in harbor water as in Croton. The oxygen in salt water is really less than in land water, and in the East River the oxygen is sometimes down to 43 per cent. Sanitary engineers tell you that it is dangerous to deplete it more than 58 per cent. And the worst thing is that the river is dirtiest in midsummer, when it ought to be cleanest."

Dr. Soper said that the Metropolitan Sewerage Commission had considered all possible means of taking care of the sewage which flows into the East River. It had secured advice from experts in this country and abroad, and had investigated methods of purification in use in other countries.

"We couldn't take land along the river fronts for purification plants," he said. "The land would cost too much, and the odors arising from the plants would be unbearable. We couldn't carry it far out on Long Island, because it would cost too much to build the tunnels, and when we got there, we would be confronted by the same problem of expensive purification. We couldn't take it to New Jersey, for the State authorities there wouldn't hear of it. Nor could we take it directly to sea and dump it there, because of the way the shores hereabout are built."

"Finally, we hit upon the scheme of building the tunnel under Brooklyn and making a new island outside Coney. All things considered, this is an excellent solution of the problem."

As matters stand now, within four miles along the East River shores there are fifty sewer outlets, discharging about 200,000,000 gallons every twenty-four hours. Dr. Soper and his associates think that that part of Manhattan which lies south of Fourteenth street and east of Broadway should no longer be allowed to drain directly into the East River. This section forms a natural drainage area into the East River along with Williamsburg, Brownsville and a large part of the Eastern District.

The plan provides for the gathering of the drainage of these districts into intercepting sewers along the river front and their consolidation into a great arterial sewer near the eastern end of the Brooklyn navy yard. The Manhattan outlet would be carried to a tunnel opening in Brooklyn along with the tunnel reaching from Coney Island in Manhattan to South Eighth street, in Williamsburg.

This tunnel would have a diameter of 5 feet 9 inches and would be beneath the East River, just as the new Catskill aqueduct dips under the Hudson at Storm King. The siphon would be built through solid rock and would be 110 feet below mean low water.

It is proposed that a pumping station be built in Wallabout street near the Brooklyn navy yard with a capacity of about 400,000,000 gallons a day. The sewage would be pushed through a tunnel 12 feet 10 inches in diameter which would extend almost due south to the ocean. It would pass through Prospect Park in Brooklyn and would have to be constructed beneath one of the park lakes. The surface of the ground would be from twelve to fifty feet above the level of the main.

Near Sheepshead Bay the tunnel would be increased to 11 feet to take care of sewage coming from the Jamaica Bay region to the east. At Coney Island

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ARREST MELLER FOR WESTPORT WRECK

Vice-President McHenry of New Haven Also Charged With Manslaughter.

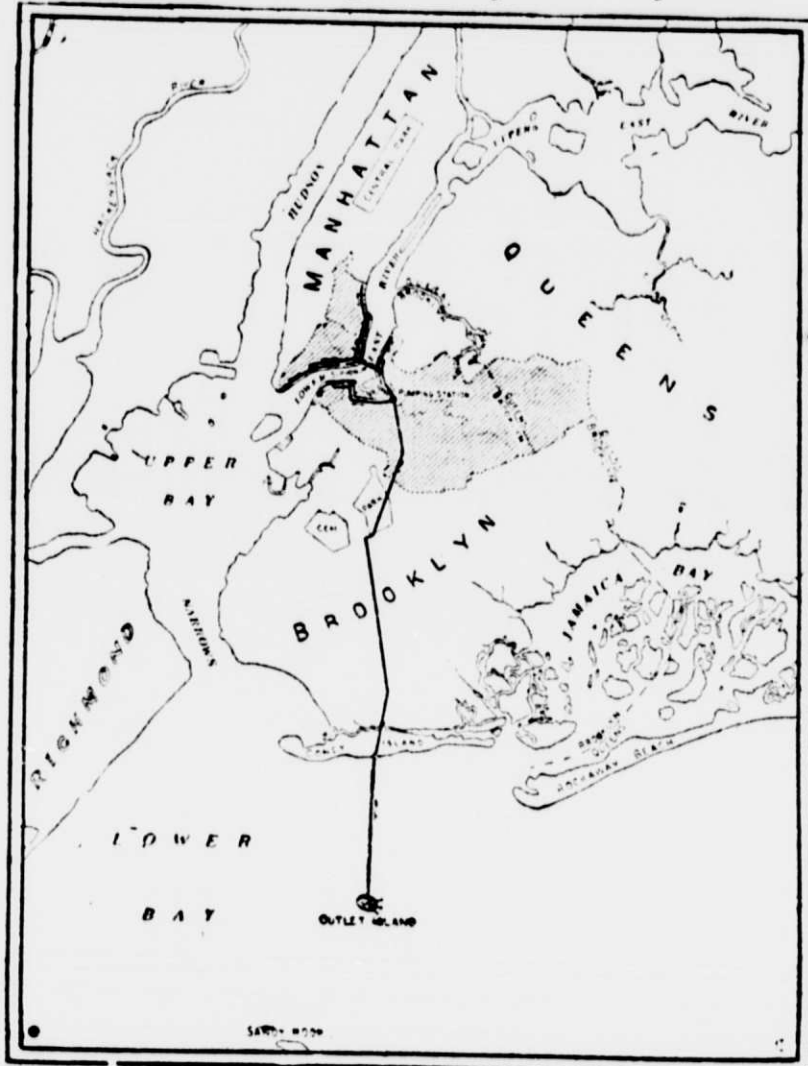
EACH FREE IN \$5,000 BAIL.

Bench Warrants Served in Court Despite Protests of Railroad's Lawyer.

NEW HAVEN, Conn., April 15.—President Charles S. Meller and Vice-President E. H. McHenry of the New Haven were arrested in court in Bridgeport today on bench warrants issued by Judge Gardner Greene of the Superior Court.

The cost of building the island has

Plan of Sewage Disposal System



been estimated at \$615,000. It would be 1,800 feet long and 1,000 feet wide. A harbor will be provided for the use of tank steamers, which will be employed as carriers for the sludge removed from the water before it is allowed to flow into the sea.

The plan for partial purification calls for the construction of the Wallabout pumping station of grit chambers and coarse screens to take out gritty materials. At the island will be fine screens and settling basins capable of removing the suspended solids within two hours. This material, in the shape of black sludge, would be pumped into tank steamers at the rate of 1,000 tons a day. The steamers would carry it fifty miles further out to sea for dumping.

"They sometimes ask us why this sludge can't be saved and used as fertilizer," said Dr. Soper. "The answer to that is that if any chemist devises a scheme for putting it into usable form his fortune will be made many times over."

The plans for the rest of Manhattan except for the Harlem River drainage area which begins at about Eighty-second street on the east side, and curves through the northern end of Central Park and then bends northward along the line of Manhattan street call for drainage into the East and North rivers. But there will be no such direct drainage as at present. The suspended solids will be taken out, just as at the artificial island, and carried away in tank steamers for deposit.

The plans for the Harlem drainage area call for the establishment of a treating station on Wards Island, where a similar process will be effected. It would be impossible, Dr. Soper said, to purify the sewage completely without establishing a nuisance. The elimination of solids can be accomplished without offense.

The Metropolitan Sewerage Commission has just been continued by act of the Legislature for three years more. Dr. Soper thinks that it can finish its work within a year and then a new commission could go ahead and build the sewers, much as the Board of Water Supply is building the Catskill aqueduct.

At present the city has no money for any such public purpose. But under the new assessments and the consequent increase of the allowance for public debt the Board of Estimate would be able to carry out the plans of the commission.

Sues J. H. Hammond for Libel. San Francisco, April 15.—William Hammond Hall, civil engineer, filed suit today against John Hays Hammond to recover \$150,000 damages for alleged libel.

PUBLIC BLAMED BY WHITMAN FOR CRAFT

Legislature Against Offences, Then Fail to Enforce Law.

INCENTIVE FOR BLACKMAIL.

Dr. Parkhurst Mentions "Dead Sea of Mayor's Insensitivity."

"All the revelations of police corruption in the past few months have not been able to start so much as a ripple on the Dead Sea of the Mayor's insensitivity," said the Rev. Dr. Charles H. Parkhurst last night at the meeting of the Civic Forum in Carnegie Hall, at which District Attorney Charles S. Whitman was the guest of honor. Dr. Parkhurst added:

"The Mayor is still thanking God that New York is the best governed city on the globe and is still clinging to the Police Department as the chief jewel in the crown of his regime. District Attorney Whitman took up the Mayor's statement that there are only fifty crooks in the Police Department. 'We are told by an eminent authority,' he said, 'that there are only fifty crooks in the Police Department. I wish the same eminent authority would give me their names. I have no concern how many they are, but I have very deep concern in finding out who they are and where they are.'"

Mr. Whitman said that the provisions of the excise law stating the hours in which liquor may and may not be sold are well known to the public. There is no such thing as a general, liberal enforcement of law," he continued. "It can mean but one thing—discretionary enforcement and the discretion exercised by those whose sworn duty it is to enforce all the laws. Hence bribery and graft and the payment of police protection money by the law breakers."

"The Enforcement of Law and the District Attorney" was the subject for discussion at this twenty-sixth meeting of the Forum. Joseph H. Choate presided. The speakers other than those already mentioned were Controller William A. Prendergast and Frederic H. Conder, Senator Robert E. Wagner, majority leader of the Senate, and Henry Morgenthau, treasurer of the Democratic National Committee, also were scheduled to speak, but Senator Wagner was kept in Albany by the work of the Legislature and Mr. Choate said that Mr. Morgenthau was kept away by an impending death in his family.

Others on the platform were Isaac N. Seligman, Marcus M. Marks, Assistant District Attorney James H. Reynolds, Henry C. Lewis, William H. Bliss and Robert Erskine Ely.

The District Attorney said in part: "We have seen in New York during the months past disclosures as to conditions in one great department of the city government. It has been conclusively established, I believe, that some of those high in authority under the law, and wielding probably greater power than was ever contemplated by lawmakers, have actually bargained and sold for years in this city the right to violate the law. How far is this due to the individual law officer to his natural greed, or to his lack of ordinary moral perception? How far is it due to conditions, social and governmental, for which he is in no way responsible? If the very conditions are such that the temptation placed in the way of the kind of men naturally selected for such places is overwhelming, then it is the duty of the intelligent citizenship to see to it that such conditions shall not continue."

"The more drastic the law in the control of undesirable men, the more is enforced the mightier instrumentality has been placed in the hands of such men for extorting blackmail from lawbreakers. We legislate against conditions which we are committed around us day after day. We are unwilling to modify our laws or deal scientifically with some of these offenses and we appear to forget that their repeated commission is evidence of a crime that the very officers of the law charged with the duty of its enforcement are either hopelessly inefficient or corruptly acquiescent, and then we wonder at some unjustified manifestation of a condition which we have almost hypocritically refused to acknowledge when it has been evident to the observant eye for years."

"A law that does not carry with it public sentiment can be enforced for a certain time, but the failure to enforce that law has seldom aroused public interest or condemnation. For instance, in the State of New York it is lawful to sell intoxicating liquors from 6 o'clock in the morning until 1 o'clock in the morning. When the State says that it is right to sell a commodity ninety hours a day and during during five hours the human mind refuses to accept the proposition as correct, either morally or ethically."

Mr. Choate read a tribute from Senator Warner to Mr. Whitman's work in the police investigation and added a plea for a morals commission. Mr. Choate pointed out that the Forum is strictly non-partisan, "for all parties and pieces of parties," he said, and added for the benefit of the women present that he understood there was to be a constitutional convention in this State to take up the question of suffrage. "Anybody with a bit of sense in his head can guess how that convention will come out," he said.

Mr. Choate urged the newspapers to stop featuring crime and said he believed the people would welcome a newspaper which would omit murders and suicides and so on.

Dr. Parkhurst said that after he passed over into the other world he should want to be back in New York on election day. "For three and a half years," he went on, "the chief executive of our city has treated laws as a joke, or according to the idiosyncrasies of his incompunctable character. The integrity of the town has been lowered into the moral tone has been lowered. You cannot have moral or decayed character in a position of large influence without having the decay work down through the lower strata." A moment later he mentioned the "moral inertia" of the present administration.

Comptroller Prendergast also mentioned Mr. Gaynor's administration. "When a man tries to be Mayor and Police Commissioner too," he said, "there is no doubt about his efforts being a fizzle."

"CONSERVATIVE" TICKET NAMED. The nominating committee of the "conservative" party for the Stock Exchange made known yesterday its choice for officers and governors for the year. The men now in office are named:

The men nominated are: James B. Macdonald, president; Henry C. Swords, treasurer; governors to serve four years, C. LeVander Blair, Arthur W. Butler, W. W. Heaton, E. V. D. Cox, W. T. Floyd, William H. Remick, William B. Potts, E. H. H. Stinson, Cassius L. Stralder and James B. Taylor, for governor to serve three years, Eugene Meyer, Jr., for governor to serve one year, Dexter Blagden, Henry C. Lawrence was nominated for trustee of the gratuity fund, to serve five years. Elections are to be held on May 12.

RUBENSTEIN RESIGNS FROM PUBLIC BANK

Withdrawal Follows That of President and of Cashier.

It was announced yesterday that George Rubenstein has sent in his resignation as vice-president of the Public Bank of New York City, Delancy and Ludlow streets. His resignation follows that of Joseph S. Marcus, founder of the bank, who quit last week as president, and of W. M. H. Koelsch, who will retire as cashier on Saturday. Mr. Rubenstein is a lawyer.

Moses Valentine, formerly vice-president of the Columbia Bank, who succeeded Mr. Koelsch as cashier of the Public Bank and is now its acting head, said yesterday afternoon:

"Mr. Rubenstein has tendered his resignation. I don't know whether he will go or not. I had a talk with him this morning and he told me that he was resigning because he wants to go to Europe. If he will consent to stay I should be glad to have him."

Mr. Rubenstein said: "The only thing I care to say is that I have resigned. The resignation must be accepted. That is a privilege that no one can deny."

Mr. Rubenstein said that his resigning had no connection whatever with the resignation of Mr. Marcus and of Mr. Koelsch. Vice-President Valentine in commenting on the previous resignations declared that Mr. Marcus left the presidency of the bank on account of ill health and Cashier Koelsch is ceasing his connection because he is going South.

Mr. Koelsch said last night: "I am going voluntarily. You cannot make that too plain."

In his formal resignation President Marcus said he had been advised by his physician that it was necessary for him to give up active business pursuits.

The Public Bank is a State bank of good standing. It does a very large business and is considered one of the most flourishing of the State banks.

Government Loses Patience

Over Dilatory Tactics With Serum.

WASHINGTON, April 15.—The United States Government made public its first comment to-night on the work of Dr. Friedrich F. Friedmann in administering his treatment for tuberculosis. This is a severe criticism of the German physician's tardiness in treating patients under observation of a special board of the United States Public Health Service.

The Government's comment is in the form of a letter written to the doctor by Passed Assistant Surgeon John E. Anderson, director of the hygienic laboratory and chairman of the board of investigation. Having the approval of Surgeon-General Blue and Secretary of the Treasury McAdoo, it is virtually an ultimatum requiring the tuberculosis specialist to comply promptly with promises made to the medical authorities that he expedite his treatment so that the Government may reach a verdict as soon as possible for the benefit of the American people. The letter to Dr. Friedmann, addressed to him in the Hotel Narragansett, Providence, R. I., is as follows:

"We regret to have to invite your attention to the halting progress in your demonstration of the alleged curative value of your remedy for tuberculosis. Only ninety-four of the patients accepted by you as suitable for such test have been treated by you."

In order to avoid undue prolongation of your demonstration and to avoid unnecessary delay in advising the public of the value of your treatment, we are forced to limit our clinical studies to the number already treated under our observation in the hospitals in New York city.

"From conversations with you it is understood that some of these patients are now ready for a further injection of your remedy. In their interest and for the reasons given for limiting our clinical observations to those already treated we feel that these patients should now be seen by you with the view of giving such additional injections of your remedy as may in your judgment be necessary to effect a cure. We should be pleased, therefore, to have you give this matter your prompt attention and inform us regarding the same at an early date."

"We may be communicated with in writing addressed either to Dr. A. N. Stimson, Hotel Marlborough, New York city, or to Dr. John E. Anderson, director hygienic laboratory, Washington, D. C."

This was signed by Dr. Anderson, chairman of the board. This letter explains the absence of any officials of the Public Health Service at the clinic performed in the George Washington University hospital here by Dr. Friedmann yesterday. The members of the board were already engaged in observing the effects on the patients treated for their benefit in New York, and did not see the necessity of taking on any new cases here.

HUSSEY AND THOMPSON HELD.

To Plead Today to Conspiracy Charge—Curran Writes to Sniker.

Former Inspectors James E. Hussey and James F. Thompson, indicted on Monday by Judge Frederic Sweeney and Murtin on a charge of conspiracy to keep George A. Sipp from testifying before the Grand Jury, surrendered yesterday and were arraigned before Judge Sweeney. Each was held in \$1,000 additional bail, which was furnished by a surety company.

Hussey and Thompson already were under \$5,000 bail on indictment for bribery. The two will plead to the new indictment to-morrow. The trial of the four inspectors on the blanket indictment is expected to begin on April 28.

Alderman Henry B. Curran wrote to Gov. Sulzer yesterday asking him to disapprove the bill recently passed providing for the rehearing by the Police Commissioner or Fire Commissioner of cases which have resulted in demotions.

"It is discouraging to perceive," Mr. Curran's letter concludes, "that after the investigation of the Police Department during the past winter the first piece of legislation passed should be a reiteration of the committee's recommendation."

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